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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

INVENTORS: Tatsuya KAWAHARA et al.  
SERIAL NO: 09/977,399  
FILING DATE: October 16, 2001  
TITLE: DIFFUSION LAYER FOR A FUEL CELL AND A METHOD AND  
APPARATUS FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME  
ART UNIT: 1746  
EXAMINER: Robert W. HODGE

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2005 in the above-identified application, the Applicant respectfully submits the following.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.